

A Message from Governor Haley Barbour and First Lady Marsha Barbour

Marsha and I extend our very best wishes as you celebrate the grand opening of the Delta Music Institute in the historic, and now converted, Whitfield Gymnasium at Delta State University. It is a testament to the progressive nature of this community that this building is still giving back, and this vital university, its supporters and patrons are always opening new doors to education and opportunity.

As huge fans, we know and appreciate Mississippi Delta blues as the foundational influence on rock 'n roll and other forms of music. In the field of musical innovation, Mississippi is first, and we are proud of the many talented musicians and entertainers who call our state home.

While we regret we could not join you personally today, please know we applaud all of your outstanding efforts to put this old building to important new uses. We know it will be another tremendous asset not only for the Delta region but also for the entire state.

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